Transition between Education and Profession: Experiences of Statisticians

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The demand for statistical skills is growing in various fields and sectors, and the employment of statisticians is expected to increase drastically. However, the expectations of the workplace can be overwhelming because recent graduates need to develop practices that grow out of experience. Participants were recruited at conferences and completed an activity and a survey to reflect on their experience and their perspective on the role of statisticians. Interviews with selected participants explored the transition to the profession in more details. Results revealed predominant and newly developed statistical skills from the perspective of the practitioners and inform how to better promote an authentic experience throughout education to ease the transition.

Layla Guyot is in the fifth year of her PhD in Mathematics Education at Texas State University. Her main research interest is to bring real life contexts into her classroom and investigating curriculum development for undergraduate and graduate statistics courses.